

RELATION

And miserable state and condition

His MAJESTIES Forces, and detained
and kept in the Castle at *Oxford*.

unheard-of usage of their Keeper or Gaoler

Captaine - THOMAS SMITH the
Marshall Generall.

As also, A Relation of the execrable cruelties of the Cavaliers in *Torkefbire*, upon a young man, horfing him, and hanging lead waights upon his legges untill he dyed.

Written, and sent by a poore Gentleman a Prisoner there, to a Gentleman a friend of his here in LONDON.

Gough Addr

Apron 22 15. 2.

L O N D O N,

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1643.

RELATION

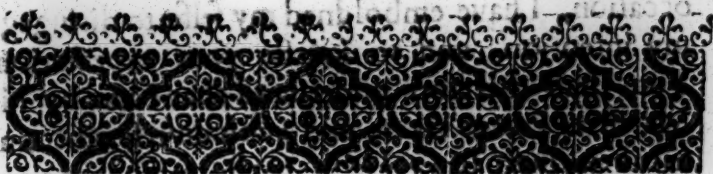
THE HISTORY OF THE
RELATION OF THE
INDIAN NATIONS TO THE
UNITED STATES

BY
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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

THE
RELATION OF THE
INDIAN NATIONS TO THE
UNITED STATES
IN THE
PAST AND PRESENT

NEW YORK
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S I R,



S long absence causeth forgetfulness, so doth strict imprisonment and hard usage, Stupiditie and dulnesse, expect not therefore (I beseech you) any pollicht phrases, but a true and plaine Narration in this writing; for Prisoners minds, like to their bodies, are captived, and thinke not what they were, but what they are, that is, miserable.

I know, ere this time you did expect an accompt of my beeing, which I had long ere this accomplished, had I had either sitting opportunitie, convenient leisure, or could have gotten Pen, Inke, or Paper, which is utterly denied and debarred us. But I hope that *Nunquam sera*, shall for this once pleading excuse.

And therefore having at last gotten (or rather stolne) for such is our miserable condition, this

occasion, I have emboldned my selfe to disingage my intencion, and to satisfie your expectation. You shall therefore understand that I am by his Majesties Forces taken, and with diverse other unfortunate men, like my selfe, to the number of 220. Besides Captaines and Commanders, deteined and kept as Prisoners in the Castle of Oxford, under the Custody of a most cruell and insulting Gaolet (I meane the Marshall Generall) where our being is miserable, our condition lamentable, and our Gaolet intollerable.

And first for our beeing, wee endure cold, hunger, and nakednesse, fetters, bolts, and irons, our beds we lie on, are stufte with feathers longer than our armes, our sheets and coverlets wanting, and the hard boards our bedstedes. And yet had wee but roome enough to lie in that piteous manner, it were some favour and good usage of us, but we are so thrust and packed up together, and in such close and small roomes, that wanting roome for us to lie, some of us are inforced perforce to stand in woefull manner, untill the residue take their unquiet rest. And even as Job was glad when he was upon the Dunghill with a potsheard to scrape his soares, so are wee faine to flie up to the leads from stinkes and noysomenesse, to pursue our destroying
and

and backbiting Enemies, which hourly torment us : and this is our miserable being.

And as for the lamentableness of our condition, considering that wee are free-borne Subjects, and live under a most gracious and mercifull King, yet in this case is our condition worse than the children of *Israel*; For they were but inforced to make Bricke, and to finde straw, rubbith, and other necessities, and then had some ease of their misery; But wee, doe what we can, can neither enioy freedom, libertie, or ease of our calamitie, but like *Pharaohs* leane Kine, are ready to devoure all we see, and are one readie even to devour another.

The Children of *Israel* wandering in the Wilderness, surfeited of *Mannah*, desired superfluitie, had it, and it stunke in their nostrills, and they dyed, wee surfeit not of *Mannah*, for we have scarce bread enough to eate, and as for the superfluitie of that we have, it stinkes before it comes to our nostrills, and yet we live, onely here is the difference, The Children of *Israel* had *Quailes*, and that in abundance and often, we sheepes heads and gathers, and that scarce, and very seldome. And this is our lamentable condition.

And now lastly, For the intollerableness of our Gaoler (a name too good for such a Member) his

name is Captaine Smith, a man composed of naught but wickednesse, begot by an *Incubus*, nursed by a *Succubus*, or else the very spawne of *Cerberus*, more fitter for the Gaoler of Devils, than a keeper of Christians; For aske this man bread, and he shall give you a stone, aske him for meate, he shall give you a Scorpion, aske him for water, and he shall beate you to death with his Trunchion. For although his Majestie out of his goodnesse and clemency, alloweth every one of us six pence a day (besides our fees racked and extorted from every one of us that are common prisoners five shillings a day) he out of his inhumane basenesse and insatiate covetousnesse, affordeth us but five farthings; a miserable stipend from so cursed a Creature, who like to *Jobs* Comforter, *Bad him curse God and dye*; So he bids us starve, or be hanged.

Thus like unto the Children of *Israell*, are our burthens insupportable, being indeed such and so many, as the eye of man hath seldome scene, neither hath the care of man scarce heard of. And as ten plagues oppressed, and in a manner destroyed *Egypt*. So are they by this Monsters usage of them almost accomplished in the Castle; For there is hunger, cold, and darknesse, lice, frogges, and nakednesse, hayle, locusts, and wretchednesse, and bloud

to drinke in stead of water by his wickednesse. And in the same condition are the chiefe Captaines and Commanders, who for the most part are kept close Prisoners, and used with as strict a hand, as if they had fallen into the hands of Turkes and Pagans. And these are some of their names, Captaine *Wingate*, Captaine *Saxope*, Captaine *Lilborne*, Captaine *Lidcote*, Captaine *Austin*, and Captaine *Vivers*; all these close Prisoners. Then Sir *William Essex*, with divers other Captaines, Lieutenants, and Ensignes, which for brevitie sake, I omit.

And thus have I sent you a true Relation (as by these Gentlemen it hath and will be averred and affirmed to the Committees) how that our being is miserable, our condition lamentable, and our Gaoler intollerable; which God, I hope, in his good time, will either mend or end. And so I rest.

An instance of Crueltie by the Popish Cavaliers of the Earle of New-Castles Armie in Yorkshire, executed upon an honest yong man, to be added to this Relation of crueltie, is not unfit or uselesse. And as it came from a very good hand to one in Cateaton-street, it is this.

A Young man of Leeds for refusing to beare Armes against the Parliament, the Cavaliers Hor'd and hung great Leaden waights at each legge, which so hurt his legges, that his Boots were filld with bloud, which so affected the tender heart of the mother of this young man, that she proffered 20 pound to have but the waights taken off her sonnes legges, but it would not be granted, at length the Cavaliers tooke him downe, and he presently dyed.

These cruelties of theirs should move us all to pray hard, and to be courageous against these Wolves; both for the enlargement of our miserable friends, and the keeping our selves from their miseries.

F I N I S.